Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SAM-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01 /033 W

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SOPN, PINT, PO

SUBJ: TREATMENT OF FOREIGN JOURNALISTS

- 1. JAIME SARAIVA, CHIEF OF PRESS RELATIONS AT THE PORTUGUESE MINISTRY OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS, ADVISED EMBOFFS MARCH 17 THAT, ACCORDING TO MINISTER JESUINO'S POLICY DIRECTION, PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT IS TO BE GIVEN TO JOURNALISTS FROM SOVIET AND EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES WHO REQUEST INTERVIEWS WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM ANY OF THE MINISTRIES OR POLITICAL PARTIES.
- 2. PINPOINTING SPECIFIC EXAMPLES, MR. SARAIVA SAID THAT OFTEN WESTERN JOURNALISTS ARE EITHER REFUSED INTERVIEWS OR MADE TO WAIT A LONG TIME BEFORE ONE IS GRANTED.
- 3. REFERRING TO MASS COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER JORGE CORREIA JESUINO AS A COMMUNIST, SARAIVA POINTED OUT THAT JESUINO HAD A HALF-HOUR VISIT WITH THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR BEFORE HIS LAST PRESS CONFERENCE.
- 4. SARAIVA'S REMARKS CONFIRM RECENT EXPERIENCE OF WESTERN JOURNALISTS, SOME OF WHOM RECENTLY REPORTED TO EMBOFF THAT THEY ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY TRANSMITTING THEIR STORIES THROUGH HOTEL TIVOLI TELEX BECAUSE HOTEL WORKERS SAY THE "DO NOT AGREE WITH JOURNALISTS" PRESENTATION OF FACTS."
- 5. IN A SEPARATE BUT RELATED DEVELOPMENT, RADIO CLUBE PORTUGUES (RCP) ANNOUNCED MARCH 14, 12:30 P.M. SPOT NEWS THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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GOP WARNS THOSE IN RESPONSIBLE POSITIONS TO EXERCISE EXTREME

CAUTION IN COMMENTING ON NATIONAL EVENTS.
RCP SAID IT WAS DIRECTING ITS APPEAL TO ALL THOSE WHO
HAVE ACCESS TO MEDIA.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: POLICIES, JOURNALISTS, THE PRESS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 18 MAR 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975| ISBON01512

Document Number: 1975LISBON01512 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750095-0102

From: LISBON

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750341/aaaabkpj.tel

Line Count: 65

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: ShawDG

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 12 JUN 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <22 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: TREATMENT OF FOREIGN JOURNALISTS TAGS: SOPN, PINT, PO To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006